

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES

CONTRIBUTION/EXPENDITURE PENALTY MATRIX LATE PARTY COMMITTEE REPORTS 21-A M.R.S.A. Section 1020-A

A campaign finance report is timely filed when a properly signed copy of the report, substantially conforming to the disclosure requirements, is received by the Commission before 5 p.m. on the date it is due. A penalty begins to accrue after 5:00 p.m. on the day the report is due. Penalties are based on a percentage of the total contributions or expenditures for the filing period, whichever is greater, multiplied by the number of calendar days the report is filed late, as follows:

For the first violation, 1%
For the second violation, 3%
For the third and each subsequent violation, 5%

Example: The treasurer files the committee's report two days late. The committee has not been charged with any previous violations. The treasurer reports a total of \$2,500 in contributions and \$1,500 in expenditures for the filing period. The penalty is calculated as follows:

\$2,500 Greater amount of the total contributions received or expenditures made during the filing period

X .01 Percent prescribed for first violation

\$25.00 One percent of total contributions

X 2 Number of calendar days late

\$50.00 Total penalty accrued

PARTY COMMITTEE NAME

Your penalty is calculated as follows:

Contributions/Expenditures: \$ _____

Percent prescribed: x _____

\$ _____

Number of days late: x _____

Total penalty accrued: \$ _____

Maximum penalty: \$ _____

Any penalty of less than \$5 is waived.

Violations accumulate on reports with filing deadlines in a 2-year period that begins on January 1st of each even-numbered year. Waiver of a penalty does not nullify the finding of a violation.

A required report that is sent by certified or registered United States mail and postmarked at least 2 days before the deadline is not subject to penalty.

Maximum penalties:

State Party Committee: \$5,000 for election year reports and 48-hour reports
\$1,000 for non-election year semiannual reports

Municipal, District
and County Committees: \$500 for all reports